

# Labor Resources for Blackville, South Carolina

## Executive Summary

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This profile contains information about the labor force within a 30 minute and 45 minute commuting distance from the center of Blackville, South Carolina. Blackville is located in Barnwell County, South Carolina.

The profile examines three issues: labor force characteristics, the availability of labor, and the average wages and salaries in the community of Blackville.

## Labor Situation at a Glance in Blackville, South Carolina

Labor Force Characteristics	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Population, 2004	53,118	155,354	4,198,068
Labor Force, 2004	21,568	65,376	2,046,179
Availability of Labor	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Unemployed Workers, 2004	1,880	5,102	139,607
Unemployment Rate, 2004	8.7%	7.1%	6.8%
Workers Affected by Layoffs (Past 2 Years)	86	270	22,196
Average Wages	Barnwell County	South Carolina	United States
2003 Avg. Weekly Wage	\$509	\$581	\$658

## Labor Force Characteristics for Blackville, South Carolina

The composition and size of a community's labor force is linked very closely with demographic and economic conditions and trends in the region. The following labor force profile provides basic information on the population base and labor force characteristics so that the reader can better assess labor force conditions in the community.

Labor Force			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force 2004	21,568	65,376	2,046,179
Change since 2000	-2,914	-6,724	49,079
Population			
Population 2004	53,118	155,354	4,198,068
Change since 2000	545	3,750	186,056
Projected 2010	61,821	180,315	4,446,704
Gender Distribution			
Male	25,750	75,594	2,040,261
Female	27,368	79,760	2,132,454
Age Distribution			
Ages 20-34	10,279	30,202	875,330
Ages 35-49	11,346	32,837	925,330
Ages 50-64	9,799	28,353	739,980
20-54 *Prime Working Age	25,414	74,055	2,084,880
Highest Level of Educational Attainment			
High School	16,891	48,310	778,054
Some College	9,185	28,238	500,194
Associate Degree	3,185	9,943	173,428
Bachelors Degree	5,736	18,783	351,526
Post Bachelor	3,139	10,086	178,529

*\*Prime working age group:*  
People between the ages of 18-54 are often referred to as the prime working age group. In staffing a new facility, prudent managers often prefer to staff its production work force with workers whose ages form a normal distribution curve. This provides for stability, flexibility and continuity of knowledge.

Source: 2004 Estimates Based on 2000 U.S. Census of Population and Woods and Poole, 2003 Edition

## Employment Characteristics for Blackville, South Carolina

Total Employment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
2004	19,688	60,274	1,906,571

*Total Employment* data include all full and part-time wage and salaried workers in the area. These people may or may not reside in the area.

Monthly Employment by Sector In Barnwell County			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
<b>Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>12,379</b>
<b>Mining</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>1,603</b>
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>11,891</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>1,099</b>	<b>3,820</b>	<b>111,730</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>4,169</b>	<b>10,609</b>	<b>275,573</b>
Wood product manufacturing	119	421	8,371
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	73	299	9,155
Primary metal manufacturing		1	6,317
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	289	978	27,357
Machinery manufacturing	217	612	21,278
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	76	282	7,666
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.			10,748
Transportation equipment manufacturing	184	571	30,932
Furniture and related product manufacturing	12	44	4,225
Miscellaneous manufacturing	4	28	7,846
Food manufacturing	9	215	17,832
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing			1,445
Textile mills	592	1,855	40,207
Textile product mills		5	9,724
Apparel manufacturing			5,321
Paper manufacturing		35	14,710
Printing and related support activities	25	123	7,327
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing			288
Chemical manufacturing	120	349	21,659
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	126	479	23,054
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>859</b>	<b>62,523</b>
<b>Retail Trade</b>	<b>2,392</b>	<b>7,118</b>	<b>224,031</b>
<b>Transportation and Warehousing</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>46,941</b>
<b>Education and Health Services</b>	<b>2,980</b>	<b>8,207</b>	<b>156,232</b>
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>1,754</b>	<b>5,382</b>	<b>192,748</b>
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>1,981</b>	<b>7,291</b>	<b>186,481</b>

Source: 2003 Covered Wages, SC Employment Securities Commission

Largest Industries by Total Employment In <i>Barnwell County</i>				
Company Name	City	Primary Product/Service	Employment	Date Est.
Dixie-Narco Inc	Williston	Soft-drink vending machines	1,000	1990
Excel Comfort Systems	Blackville	HVAC units	400	1999
Sara Lee Sock Co	Barnwell	Athletic socks	325	1992
EFCO	Barnwell	Commercial windows	300	1997
Dayco Products LLC	Williston	Polyribbed belts	260	1977
Augusta Fiberglass Coatings	Blackville	Tanks and components	140	1974
Ducane Gas Grills	Barnwell	Gas barbeque grills	125	1968
Chem Nuclear Systems LLC	Barnwell	Radwaste containers	67	1971
National Beverage Screen Printers	Williston	Screen printing	65	1984
Precision Metal Fabricators	Williston	Fabricated metal products	30	1990

## Employer-Employee Relationship

Employer-employee relations in South Carolina are very stable and the state consistently ranks as one of the least unionized in the nation. In 2004, only 4.5 percent of the state's workers were members of a labor union. Additionally, the state has consistently had one of the lowest work stoppage rates in the United States. On average, less than .01 percent of working time was lost due to strikes in manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries combined.

## Availability of Labor

### Labor Force Participation & Unemployment

Labor Force Participation & Unemployment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force (2004)	21,568	65,376	2,046,179
Labor Force Change from 2000	-2,914	-6,724	49,079
Labor Force Participation Rate	41%	42%	49%
Unemployment (2004)	1,880	5,102	139,607
Unemployment Rate	8.7%	7.1%	6.8%

The *labor force participation* rate is the percentage which results from dividing the labor force count by the total population.

*Unemployment* reflects the total number of persons who do not have a job and are actively seeking employment.

### Other Potential Sources of Labor Supply

Total Jobs Lost Due to Mass Closings and Layoffs Past Two Years			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Total	86	270	22,196
Manufacturing	63	185	19,196
Distribution		1	1,213
Service	22	84	1,745
Other	-	-	42

Recent closings and layoffs are a rich source of skilled and experienced labor for companies seeking to locate or expand in a given area. Industries in which layoffs and closings occur can provide some indication of the skills and knowledge-base of many unemployed and underemployed workers in a region.

Commuters to Other Areas			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Commuters to other areas	6,580	20,620	31,833

Source: 2000 U.S. Census of Population

Workers commuting to places outside their resident are a significant source of experienced labor for new and expanding industries. These workers may be willing to consider an opportunity for employment nearer their place of residence.

## Recent Graduates of South Carolina's Colleges and Universities

<b>Certificates/Degrees Conferred From Technical Colleges in Select Degrees Within 45 Minute Drive Time of Barnwell County, SC</b>	
Degree Area	Two Year Certificates/Degrees Conferred 2002 - 2004
Computer and Information Sciences (Total)	34
Data Processing Technology	34
Engineering Technologies (Total)	17
Electrical ,Electronic & Communications	*
Mechanical Engineering/Tech	*
Mechanic & Repair Technologies (Total)	33
Industrial Electronics	20
HVAC	*
Precision Production (Total)	22
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	1

<b>Graduation From South Carolina's Four Year Colleges and Universities In Select Degrees</b>		
	Degrees Conferred (2002-2004)	
	Bachelors	Post- Grad
Computer and Information Science (Total)	910	108
Computer Engineering	150	149
Computer Programming	12	5
Engineering & Related Technologies (Total)	1,316	786
Chemical Engineering	136	38
Electrical Engineering	257	150
Industrial Engineering	78	44
Mechanical Engineering	268	95
Business Admin & Management	4,754	1,018
International Business/Trade	178	276

Source: South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

## Wages and Salaries

Average Wage and Salary Comparison			
Sector	Barnwell County	South Carolina	United States
Avg. Weekly Wages*	\$509	\$581	\$658
Avg. Annual Salary*	\$26,452	\$30,240	\$37,508
Avg. Hourly Prod. Wages**	N/A	\$14.73	\$16.14

\*Covered Wages and Employment, 2003, SC Employment Securities Commission

\*\* Employment & Earnings, 2004, U.S. Department of Labor

Average Annual Salary Manufacturing Sectors, 2004		
Sector	Barnwell County	South Carolina
Manufacturing Total	\$31,132	\$39,027
Wood product	***	\$30,808
Nonmetallic mineral product	***	\$39,031
Primary metal	***	\$49,695
Fabricated metal product	***	\$37,533
Machinery	***	\$39,952
Computer and electronic product	***	\$40,186
Electrical equipment and appliance	***	\$40,178
Transportation equipment	***	\$44,099
Furniture and related product	***	\$27,907
Miscellaneous	***	\$34,350
Food	***	\$26,620
Beverage and tobacco product	***	\$35,765
Textile mills	***	\$31,898
Textile product mills	***	\$25,618
Apparel	***	\$23,705
Paper	***	\$55,139
Printing and related support activities	***	\$36,634
Petroleum and coal products	***	\$49,113
Chemical	***	\$50,870
Plastics and rubber products	***	\$46,620

\*\*\*Indicates data suppressed

Source: Covered Wages and Employment, SC Employment Securities Commission

## Occupational Wages In Blackville and Surrounding Area

Average Hourly Wages of Employees by Selected Non-Exempt Occupations For Barnwell Area			
Non-Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Assemblers and Fabricators	\$7.36	\$8.39	\$9.10
Butchers and Meat Cutters	\$6.25	\$8.43	\$11.73
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	\$6.89	\$9.14	\$10.53
Chemical Equipment Operators	*	*	*
Chemical Plant & System Operators	*	*	*
Electrical & Electronic Equip Tenders	\$6.50	\$7.54	\$8.49
Extruding & Forming Machine Setters	*	*	*
Grinding & Lapping Machine Operators	*	*	*
Logging Equipment Operators	\$11.16	\$14.53	\$17.30
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$11.28	\$17.73	\$22.53
Machine Tool Setters & Tenders	\$11.41	\$12.38	\$13.47
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$12.66	\$16.02	\$19.13
Machinists	\$11.77	\$14.94	\$16.63
Packaging & Filling Machine Op	\$9.35	\$12.93	\$16.16
Molding & Casting Machine Op	*	*	*
Sewing Machine Operators	\$6.10	\$7.40	\$8.62
Textile, Cutting Machine Operators	\$9.20	\$10.33	\$11.58
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$12.15	\$15.62	\$18.02
Welders, Cutters & Solderers	\$12.30	\$15.78	\$18.86
Woodworking Machine Setters	\$6.21	\$7.89	\$9.66
Average Salary of Employees by Selected Exempt Occupations For Barnwell Area*			
Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Chemical Engineers	\$67,760	\$76,060	\$88,260
Computer Programmers	*	*	*
Engineers, NEC	\$70,360	\$75,740	\$85,860
First Line Production Man & Sup	\$32,120	\$44,000	\$56,040
Industrial Engineers	*	*	*
Mechanical Engineers	*	*	*

Source: *Occupational Wage Survey*, SC Employment Security Commission

\* Indicates Suppressed Data or Data Not Available